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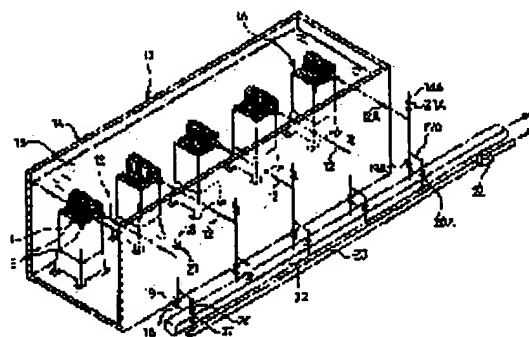
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## (54) WATER TREATMENT APPARATUS

(57)Abstract:

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To ensure predetermined treatment quantity while putting the merit of gravitational filtering to practical use.

**SOLUTION:** When a plurality of membrane separators 1 are arranged within a treatment tanks 14, the membrane permeated soln. lead-out pipes 12 of the membrane separators 1 are respectively allowed to communicate with discharge pipes 16 opened to atmospheric pressure outside the tank at the position under the liquid surface of the tank and the suction pipes 17 communicating with a suction means. Opening and closing valves 19, 20 are provided to the pipes 16, 17. Usually, a water treatment apparatus is operated by a gravitational filter system hard to generate clogging and, when clogging is generated, the apparatus is changed over to emergency operation parallelly performing either one of gravitational filtering and suction filtering, gravitational filtering and backward washing and suction filtering and backward washing.



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